

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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P'YŎNGYANG AREA

1. In September 1952 the following industrial installations were operating in the P'yongyang area:

Aluminum Plant

- a. In mid-September an aluminum plant at YD-37227 was producing table utensils for army and civilian use, and aluminum water canteens, basins, pans, and kettles for army use. The aluminum was acquired from United Nations planes that had been shot down and from scrap collected by the people. There were

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200 employees at the plant. Production was often limited for lack of aluminum. In mid-September the monthly output was 2 tons (sic). This plant had never been damaged by bombing.

65 Branch Arsenal¹

- b. In mid-September the 65 Branch Arsenal, which had been established in the P'yongyang area in January 1951, was at YD-389273, at the foot of a mountain. The shop was in a zinc-roofed, wooden building 50 feet long, 25 feet wide, and 13 feet high. The area was encircled by barbed wire. The daily production of this arsenal was 500 to 600 PPSH and light machine gun stocks and 250 to 300 clips. The manufactured products were packed in straw bags and wooden boxes and shipped to the 65 Main Arsenal at YD-5947 in North Korean army trucks. The wood used at the 65 Branch Arsenal was brought from the Kanggye (N 40-58, E 126-36) (BA-9837) area and the steel from Sinuiju.

The National P'yongyang Farm Implement Factory

- c. In late August the National P'yongyang Farm Implement Factory was at YD-401195 on the outskirts of P'yongyang. The factory was set up in August 1948 under the Machine Industry Control Department of the Ministry of Industry and it began manufacturing farm tools at that time. It had also produced hand grenades and PPSH's since March 1951. The farm implement shop was a red brick building 40 meters long, 8 meters wide, and 7 meters high, with a zinc roof. The PPSH shop building was of the same construction. The hand grenade shop was a wooden building 30 meters long, 6 meters wide, and 4 meters high, with a cement roof. The office was in a wooden building 12 meters long, 5 meters wide, and 3 meters high, with a zinc roof. The factory employed 350 people and was equipped with five lathes, two boring machines, two cutting machines, one press, two circular saws, two band saws and one planing machine. The monthly production was 30,000 hoes, 30,000 shovels, 30,000 sickles, 100 hulling machines, 500 ploughs, 80,000 hand grenades, and an unknown number of PPSH's. The farm tools were distributed to farmers through provincial agricultural bureaus.

SUP'UNG AREA

The North Korean Army 65 Branch Factory¹

2. In July the North Korean army 65 Branch Factory was in 10 caves at XE-653791, near Sup'ung station (N 40-27, E 124-57) (XE-6579) which were excavated in the compound of the Sup'ung power plant when the plant was built. The factory employed 450 people and used 30 lathes and other machines which were formerly used by the Sup'ung power plant. From 7,000 to 10,000 hand grenades per day were produced. The fuses for the grenades were imported from the Soviet Union.

HUNGNAM AREA

3. In September 1952 the following industrial installations were operating in the Hungnam area:

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Transformer Sub-Station

- a. The transformer sub-station which was supplying power for the Hungnam area was at CV-823117. Beginning in early August there was ample electric power to supply important installations in the area.

Metal Works

- b. On 22 September there was a metal plant at CV-830111 which employed 38 workers. The machinery of the plant was run on power supplied by an automobile engine using charcoal as fuel. All goods produced at this plant were turned over to the consumers union. The monthly output was as follows:

Kettles	100
Aluminum bowls	3,000
Cylindrical shafts for rice-cleaning machines	350
Bean-cake compressors	3
Threshing machines	100
Eradicators (sic)	100

4. In October 1952 the following industrial installations were operating in the Hungnam area:

Calcium Carbide Factory

- a. In early October the Hungnam Calcium Carbide Factory, which was controlled by the Ministry of Light Industry, was at CV-798128, in a wooden building 18 meters long, 6 meters wide, and 10 meters high. The building, which had formerly been used as a brick factory, had a brick chimney 15 meters high. The manager of the factory was YI Ch'on-ho, aged 40, a native of Changjin. There were 300 employees. The daily output of the factory was 4 tons of calcium carbide.

Arsenal

- b. In early October the Ch'ongnyon Arsenal, using equipment from the Pongung Factory in Hungnam, which was bombed out in July 1950, was at CV-800110. The Ch'ongnyon Arsenal was manufacturing hand grenades, shell cartridges, and horseshoes. Approximately 100 people were employed there, working three shifts. Electric power for the arsenal was supplied from the Changjin Number 1 Power Plant. Two 50-kilowatt and three 15-kilowatt transformers had been installed in the shop.

WONSAN AREAClothing Factory

5. On 3 November 1952 the Wonsan Clothing Factory was in an underground shelter at the foot of the hill just south of the village of Kyongji (N 39-16, E 127-27) (CU-5247), at CU-530480. The factory had 207 sewing machines, 33 of them of Japanese manufacture and the remainder American-made. There were 80 male and 200 female workers who lived in 15 village houses. The workers were paid 180 North Korean won per day and received free meals. The average daily output was 200 winter uniforms.

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CHANGHANG AREA

Clothing Factory

6. On 5 November 1952 there was a North Korean army clothing factory east of Changhang (approximately N 39-07, E 126-17) (BU-505356), at the foot of a hill at BU-510359, in underground shelters. These shelters were 30 by 15 by 3 meters in dimension. The entrances, which had heavy wooden doors 1.5 meters wide, all faced south. The clay roof had a base made of heavy wooden beams and was camouflaged with grass.
7. This clothing factory had 120 sewing machines and was producing 700 North Korean army summer uniforms daily. There were 150 male and 110 female workers and 15 clerks. Most of the employees worked from 7 a.m. to midnight with a few hours off during the day. Skilled workers received from 1,700 to 2,000 North Korean won, the unskilled workers received from 700 to 1,000, and clerks from 1,000 to 1,500.² Employees and members of their families each received a daily ration of 200 grams of rice and 200 grams of other cereals. The workers lived in the village of Changhang and were charged a daily rental rate of 750 grams of rice and other cereals. A unit of North Korean army soldiers was assigned to guard the area and watch the employees.
8. The output from this clothing factory was being shipped out of the plant to an undertermined point on three Soviet trucks and one American truck. The trucks made two trips each, three nights a month. The trucks brought food and raw materials for the factory from P'yongyang two nights a week.

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Comments

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- 25X1A 1. Other factories designated as 65 Branch Arsenals were reported in paragraph 2 of this report.
2. This is probably a monthly wage. If this is accepted as a monthly wage, there is a noticeable difference between it and the wage reported in paragraph 5.

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